

MAINE FARMER, AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

Vol. VIII.

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THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

WORKING COWS.

Some people are strong advocates for working cows in the same manner that we do oxen. We have once or twice expressed ourselves opposed to this, inasmuch as we think that the cow has enough to do to attend to the dairy, and that to impose the burdens of the yoke upon her too, is requiring a double duty.

We are however willing that facts should be known. We have no doubt that the cow is very kind and patient in the yoke, for we have seen them in that situation, and know that they did well. In conversation with Mr Francis Wingate, of Hallowell, the other day, upon this subject he gave us the following narrative.

A Mr Hoyt of Amesbury, Mass., many years ago, was in the constant habit of working his cows. He was a small farmer, having about twenty-five acres of land, which with the aid of his two cows, he cultivated well, and obtained a good living for himself and family. His mode of operation was as follows—He usually obtained the help of a stronger team for breaking up and other heavy operations, but the ordinary work he did with his cows. He worked them about three hours early in the morning, and then let them lie by until three o'clock in the afternoon, when he worked them three hours more. When at work he kept them more generously than common, and he invariably milked them three times per day. It was a common remark that they afforded more butter and cheese than any other two cows in the town. If it should prove true that cows in general may be worked, say six hours during a summer's day and by the help of a little extra keep, afford as much or more milk and butter than if not worked and ordinarily kept, there certainly is a saving to work them.

We are not so very strongly opposed to the system as to be blind to facts, and if experiment, fairly tried, shall prove it to be both economical and profitable, we should recommend it.

A good staunch yoke of oxen suits our ideas of a team better than any thing else, but there are many who are not able to own such a team, and the time spent in running round to hire, often makes quite a tax to those who are under the necessity of doing it. If such persons can get up a cow team, and not abridge their supply of cream, it may prove a convenience to them. It is worth a careful trial.

FIELD CULTURE OF CARROTS.

Mr Wingate, of Bangor, a brother to the above, recommends the following method of preparing land for the field culture of carrots. After spreading what manure you may have, begin to plough. Let a hand follow after with a rake, and haul into the furrow all the manure, dirt, stones, &c. that lie upon the margin. Turn back furrows until you form a bed five or six furrows wide. Thus throwing your land into beds.—Then, after harrowing, rolling, &c.—sow your seed, having rows running across the beds. In this way all the manure and litter is buried for the nourishment of the crop, and you also can have a better command of the weeds, as you can hoe them into the middle or end furrows and dispose of them as you please.

CONVENIENCES ABOUT HOUSE.—A little ingenuity often saves a deal of trouble, and we are always pleased to see it exerted even in small matters and in an humble way. We saw a fair friend of ours busily employed, an evening or two ago, in covering a board about a foot long and eight or ten inches wide. First

a piece of woollen cloth was put around and sowed tightly, and then a piece of cotton put round and fastened in the same manner. What in the world are you clothing that piece of board so comfortably for? said we. I am making a press board to iron shirt bosoms upon, was the answer—I think it will be more convenient than doing it upon the common table. We noticed near by a small work basket which also bore marks of an exercise of the same desire to have things arranged with reference to convenience and order. It was neatly lined with green silk, and within the circumference a suite of small pockets were arranged in which were placed the usual implements which ladies use, such as thread, needles, scissors, &c. This was better than having every thing of the kind thrown in together pell mell as is too often the case. Lest some one should think such things beneath the notice of those who consider themselves "accomplished," and therefore excused from attending to such every day business, we will also state that we not long since saw that same lady giving instruction to a young friend who was playing upon the Piano, and at the same time darning stockings; and we thought that the ease and facility with which she conducted both branches of business, occasionally laying down her work and running her fingers over the keys of the instrument to show her pupil the difference between right and wrong—would have been a good lesson to some mistaken young ladies of our acquaintance who would almost faint if they should be seen plying the darning needle.

Mix the useful with the ornamental say we. The more refined and accomplished the better, but the basis, the very foundation of all female accomplishments is a thorough knowledge of housewifery and domestic economy.

CEMENT FOR HOUSES.—It has been a desideratum with some to find some kind of cement that would do for covering the roofs of houses. Whether the following, which is much used in India for the walls will answer, we cannot say. We have heard those who have seen it speak highly of its tenacity and durability.

Chunam.—The celebrated chunam is a stucco laid on in three coats, the first a common mixture of shell lime, and sand, tempered with Jagherry water,* and about half an inch thick; the second of a finer description, made with sifted shell lime and white fine sand, which is also sifted to free it from pebbles or foreign matter; and this coat, as well as the third, is applied without Jagherry, which is omitted on account of its color, and it frequently contains deliquescent salts. The third and last coat which receives the polish, is prepared with great care; the purest and whitest shells being selected for it; and none but white sand of the finest description, and of that a very small proportion is used, varying from one fourth to one sixth. The ingredients of the third coat (as well as the second also, sometimes) are ground with a roller on a granite bed to a perfectly smooth uniform paste which should have the feel and appearance of white cream. In about every bushel of this paste are mixed the white of ten or a dozen eggs, half a pound of ghee (which is butter separated from its caseous parts by melting over a slow fire) and a quart of tyre (which is sour curd fresh prepared) to which some add powdered balapong (or soapstone) from a quarter to half a pound, which is said to improve the polish.

The essential ingredients in addition to the lime and sand, seem to be the albumen (of the eggs) and the

* Jagherry water—is a solution of coarse sugar in water—say a pound of sugar to every eight or ten gallons of water.

oily matter of the clarified butter for which oil is substituted. The last coat is laid on exceedingly thin, and before the second is dry; it dries speedily, and is afterwards rubbed with the smooth surface of a piece of the soapstone, or agate to produce the polish, an operation which is continued for many hours. After which it is necessary to wipe it from time to time with a soft napkin to remove the water which continues to exude from it for a day or two after completion.

"THE VISITOR."

Our readers will perceive a new department commenced in this paper. It is under the charge of Mr PEARL, who has been long and favorably known in this State as a lecturer upon Education, and for his labors to promote improvement in that important branch of our institutions. This part of our paper will therefore be devoted to Education, Productive industry, and the resources of our State—subjects which commend themselves to every friend of the State, and of mankind at large. In his travels about the State, Mr P. will find much that will be interesting which he will not fail to lay before our readers.

It will be seen that by this arrangement the Publishers have incurred an additional expense, placing their trust upon a discriminating public for a return in proportion to their merits.

ERRATA.—Our friend O. S. M. blows us printers, proof readers, and all concerned, "sky high, sir," for sundry typographical blunders committed in his communication published in our last. We crave the Old School Master's pardon, and hasten to correct the following:—

Page 20—In the article 'Common Schools,' 27th line from bottom, instead of—as is easily supplied, read—are easily supplied.

10th line, for was able so to do so—read, was able to do so.

7th line for—He had simply repeated, read—They had simply repeated.

P. 21, 1st column, line 34th from bottom, for—would have been surprised, read—would be, have been surprised.

27th, for opposite, read—opposition.

25th, after the word catalogue insert a dash —

2d column, 15th line from top, for—as set to be able, read—as not to be able.

SHEEP.

MR. HOLMES:—I have been observing, for some time past, the "progress of improvement" in the breeds of sheep in this vicinity, and the various courses which various persons are pursuing to improve the best and most profitable breed of sheep in the world, to wit: the merino. Perhaps this improvement mania is not very extensive, but it is astonishing to see the blind zeal with it is pursued in some sections of this country. One man whose flock needs "improvement" is seen in search of some of the old native sheep, along the eastern coast of the State or upon the islands "along shore;" another is procuring a Dishley buck to improve his flock, and another thinks it best "to mix with the South Downs" and is availing himself of the improvement to be made by a cross with that breed. Mr Editor, I am not opposed to this spirit of improvement which is abroad in the land; but I propose to notice in this communication the causes of the necessity of improvement in our flocks, and the probability of its being effected by the above named methods. I have called the Merino sheep the best breed in the world. This I shall not attempt to prove by a comparison of the profits of the different breeds

it has been done repeatedly by others, and always with the same results—that no other sheep yield so much weight of wool, nor wool of so valuable a kind, in proportion to size of carcass and cost of keeping. The Merino sheep were introduced into this State something like a quarter of a century ago in great purity. Our flocks were at that time small and coarse woolled. Raising wool for market was a new idea to the farmers of this State. By the establishment of manufactories, a market was opened for wool.

The raising of fine wool was found a profitable business to our farmers; and they, true Yankees, spared no time, no pains, no sleep, to increase the number of their sheep, nor the fineness of their wool. The number of sheep was increased in many instances beyond the means of keeping, and the great object to get fine wool, was pursued to the exclusion of every other consideration in connection with the business. The health, age, form or size of animals selected for breeders was of minor importance, I had almost said of no importance, if they had—fine fleeces. This injudicious management in breeding, together with the want of a knowledge of the treatment of large flocks in regard to exercise, food, air, &c., ruined the health of many flocks, brought on diseases, and produced a slender, ill-formed, diminutive race of animals; in fact, caused a general deterioration in our flocks. There are exceptions to these remarks though I think there can be no doubt of their general application. I know individuals who have less of the yankee about them, or, in other words, who have managed their flocks with more judgment, that have the merino sheep large, strong, healthy, good mothers, and fine-fleeced. I will mention one instance. I purchased a few years since a lot of wool, the produce of seventy sheep in one flock, thirty of them lambs, as we call them, that is yearlings, which weighed something above four pounds to the fleece; I am not able at this time to state positively how much it exceeded four pounds; I think the whole weight was 292 lbs. if so, it was 41-6 lbs. to the fleece. The flock is still under the care of the same man and has not yet "run out." The sheep still yield large, fine fleeces, are of good size and form; and the owner never fails of raising as many lambs as he has ewes. He informs me that he has kept up his flock by taking care not to breed by incest—never allowing the same buck to go with his ewes more than two years; and by having regard to the form and health of his breeders. The only "crossing" there has been in his flock for twenty five years has been to procure the best merino buck he could find every two years. Other instances may be shown of like causes producing like results. I mention this as one with which I am familiar.

I have stated what I suppose to be the causes which have made it necessary that some means be adopted to improve these animals, or more properly to restore them; for I am of opinion that we had as good a breed of sheep as we ever shall have, and the fault is in the shepherd, and not in the sheep, that we have not now. At first the merino sheep yielded heavy fleeces; and while they were well fed and not kept in too large flocks, were healthy, and of good size. Our lambs produced four or five pounds of wool and sometimes even more at a shearing, wethers five six or more pounds to a fleece. Then we might have talked of improvement, and no doubt could have effected it, by care in keeping, selecting the best form and sizes only for breeders, and at the same time we might have retained the fine fleece. But from want of that care, there has been a general deterioration, and now our efforts must be directed to recover our loss. I will first notice the probability of success in the work, by getting native sheep from the East. This would place us on the same ground we were when the merino sheep were first introduced among us, except that I believe it to be a fact, that sheep of the same breed have coarser wool near the sea, than those farther in the interior of a country. It is a remark that I have no remembrance of ever seeing or hearing made; but from my own observation I have come to this conclusion, and think there are reasons why it should be so. There may also be some difficulty in finding as good bucks as we formerly had, but I think they may be found, and in this manner, by a long course of judicious crossing and selection we may produce a race of healthy, well formed, fine woolled sheep. In fifteen years, we may, by this process have as good flocks, as we had twenty years ago. I will now notice the probabilities of any advantage to be derived from the introduction of the Dishley sheep.

Here I would give due credit to the truly patriotic and much lamented citizen, Mr Charles Vaughan, who made the importation of this breed from the best of motives—the view to benefit the country by renovating the flocks which had degenerated by the management to which I have alluded. They did not answer his expectation and he made another importation

of a breed which promises better. I have no doubt but the Dishley sheep might have been so managed as to have been advantageous to the country. By crossing with the finest of the merinoes and selecting the finest of the progeny and continuing the process till a fine fleece was obtained and the Dishley form retained as much as possible, we might have had a valuable stock of sheep. This however should have been done upon a small scale, by a few individuals and experiments continued till a breed was perpetuated possessing the properties which we wish our flocks to possess—good form and size, and a long thick and fine fleece. If this could have been accomplished, and we see no reason why it could not, they might have improved our flocks; but as the business has been conducted in some cases and perhaps generally, they are proving a serious injury to the country. From what I have seen of the effects of introducing them into fine flocks, I am disposed to join one of our principal wool dealers, in the opinion that "they are the greatest curse that has ever been brought among our sheep." The individuals who have got them into their flocks are not to be sole sufferers by it. Should improvement of this kind become in some degree general, it will give a character to the wool of the whole district, and it has been so much so now as to effect the price of all the wool in certain districts. Let so much of the wool in any place be of so inferior a quality as to give it the character of being coarse, and though individuals may have finer lots, they must go in the market at nearly the same price. The manufacturers say the wool from such a district is coarse, we can give but forty cents for the best of it; the runners are out and find it all best, and pay about the same price for the coarse and fine. The farmer whose wool is worth sixty cents to the manufacturer must take forty, whereas if the wool was all, or generally fine, he would get its full value. A cross of the full blood Dishley with the full blood Merinoes produces wool of about the quality of that of our native sheep—certainly not finer. So that by this method, we take one long step backward before we begin to advance. Some tell us that they gain enough in the weight of fleece, and size of carcass to compensate for the loss of the fine fleece. It may be so, but from what I have seen, I believe that no cross of the Dishley and merino has yet produced so profitable and valuable animals, as the first cross of the merino with the native sheep did. As to their being heavier animals, I doubt whether any have yet been produced with the same keeping, so large as some of the half bloods of the other cross were. I knew two wethers, twins, slaughtered at two years old, one of which weighed 18 lbs. the quarter, the other 20 lbs. They were reared in the common way, run with the flock and had no extra care. As to their weight of fleece, I am not sufficiently acquainted with them to speak with certainty, but I am of opinion that when they have been crossed with the merino a number of times sufficient to produce wool as fine as the half bloods of the native and merino, their fleeces are not so heavy in proportion to weight of carcass as those of the latter. Their form is generally better. So much for the Dishleys.

SOUTH DOWNS.—This breed perhaps will prove beneficial to the country. Their wool is much finer than the Dishleys; they are a vigorous, healthy and strong race of the woolly family, and seem well calculated to endure the extremes of our climate. From an examination of the full bloods I think there will be some loss in the weight of fleece as well as in its texture, by crossing them with the merino. By selecting those of the half bloods that retain most of the merino properties in the fleece, and then making another cross upon the merino so as to produce a flock of three fourths merino, and one fourth South Down there is no doubt that many flocks would be improved. The loss in the weight and texture of the fleece would be partially, or wholly compensated by the increased size and hardihood of the animals, and in their being more prolific.

Upon the whole, I have come to the conclusion, that if wool-raising is the object in keeping sheep, the best method of renovating our flocks is to select from them those of the merino breed which are of the best size and form, that have the finest and heaviest fleeces and are of the proper ages, and supply them with proper food and shelter—taking care not to breed by incest; and never from unhealthy animals.

Mr Editor, I have written a longer chapter upon the subject than I intended. If you find any ideas in it worth laying before the public, use it; if not, lay it under the table.

Winthrop, Dec. 12, 1839.

Mr HOLMES:—Having met with an accident in my team a few days since, I am induced to make the fol-

lowing statement: Six years since, I exchanged my oxen for a yoke of 4 years old cattle, 25 dollars was paid to me in the bargain, I kept them 2 years, they were then worth as much as my others. I then sold them for 85 dollars and bought a yoke for 55 dollars, 7 years old; these I kept 2 years and sold them for 85 dollars. I then bought a yoke of 5 years old cattle for 55 dollars. Ten days ago I went into my woodland and in crossing a few rods of miry ground, my oxen fell in and exerted themselves much, I stopped them to rest when I found one of them to breathe like a horse that had the heaves, with a greenish water running from his mouth. His breathing continued hard for 3 hours when I had him slaughtered, and as they were good beef, I had his mate killed also, and sold the beef for 5 dollars per hundred, which amounted to 83 dollars. On examining his lungs I found a blood vessel broken and one lobe filled with blood. The above oxen have performed all the labor on my farm for the last 6 years with one yoke of from 2 to 4 years old steers. How stands the account? Paid for yoke &c. 3 dollars, for shoeing 12 dollars, account against the oxen 13 dollars 50 cents. Gain on oxen 85 dollars, clear of all expense \$72 50 cents.

Suppose I had used horses instead of oxen how would the account stand at the end of 6 years.

Value of 2 good work horses	\$150
Two horses would eat as much as the keeping of cow more than oxen. Income of a cow in 6 years	\$120
Double harnesses and collars 40 dollars shoeing for 6 years	72 dollars.
Loss on horses	75 dollars.
Keeping a cow	\$120
Loss on harnesses	20
For shoeing horses	72
Account against horses	\$287
Gain on oxen in 6 years	76.50
	\$359.50

Allowing the horses do the same work it makes a gain in favor of oxen to the above amount allowing no greater risk in horses than oxen.

P. S. The value gained on my oxen was in growth and flesh without provender.

Original.

CHINA CORN AND ROHAN POTATOES.

DEAR DOCTOR: I see that numerous of your correspondents manifest a peculiar affection for Grant Thorburn and his "China Fall Prolific Tree Corn." Indeed they seem to regard him as the most "magnificent humbug" of the nineteenth century. If the old "Seedsman" believes that it is better to be infamous than non-famous, his present position must give him great joy.—I have no doubt that he feels in his pockets all the triumph which his experiment upon popular credulity gave him.

Why should people so abuse him, when they pay daily to be hoaxed, and the intention of the hoax is declared in advance? Why should Grant Thorburn shine out with such deceptive splendor from amid the petty luminaries which twinkle in the world's firmament?

I have had some experience in this China Corn—that is I have been made the repository of other people's experience, and will with your favor bestow a little of it, upon your readers.

The Farmers on Saco River are good corn growers. They were among the first to bite at the China Tree Corn. A friend of mine who cultivates a garden patch—purchased, last year in Hallowell at the rate of a cent a kernel. He of course believed that he had got his money's worth—and I think now, is gratified that he did not get more for his money—for more would have been a misfortune. He got just enough for his money to test the cheat and I guess was fully satisfied on that head with his bargain. I used frequently to visit his garden for the purpose of watching its growth and development.—I saw first "the blade, then the ear" but never was my sight blessed with the full-ripe-corn upon the ear. My friend was proud of his rod of corn, though it was only a rod in pickle, and used to expatiate upon its luxuriant growth in glowing terms. Nature proceeded in this way until the ear began to form. This did not appear as was confidently expected upon the ends of the promised branches, but grew close upon the main stalk, and stuck close to its side, as a man's rib. This opened his eyes to the deception which he had purchased and, paid for. In addition to this it was plainly evident that Jack Frost would do the harvesting. Then it was that the tide turned, and I was requested to blow up the China Tree Corn in the Newspapers. It was however too late, for it had blown up of itself.—Almost all our farmers on the Saco got more or less of this corn. One man purchased five dollars worth and gave up to it, almost all the land he had intended for his corn crop—others purchased and distributed in

small parcels of a dozen kernels to "the neighborhood." The determination seemed to be that this blessing should be as widely diffused as possible. It was early a marvel to me how there could be such an abundance of this new variety the "first year."—Joseph's Egyptian granary which contained a seven years supply could hardly have answered the drain which was made on the product of the little Long Island patch. It seemed to realize anew, and in a more remarkable manner the poor widow's oil-cruise—for the more there was sold—the more there remained to sell. It multiplied, though it has failed to replenish itself from the earth in our region.

This Tree Corn was the butt of much merriment and the wags found it more fruitful, for their purposes, than it was recommended. To them it yielded more than a hundred fold. It was truly "prolific" in causing fun and humor. During the latter portion of the summer it was at all times a standing joke, of "the tallest kind." One man declared that if his had turned tother way it would in the course of the summer, have gone down to China. On one man's land it "turned out a hoax," while his next neighbor's patch "didn't turn out all"—and in the Garden of Gardens, the pride of the village it "turned out tall." Our man was complimented on the luxuriant growth of his sap-lings—and generous offers were made to secure stumpage. Another was asked whether his tree-corn would survey or measure to the best advantage. It was recommended to the Pigwacket farmers as the best corn for them, as they could "tree bears" on it. Time, space and patience would fail me to record even a moiety of the jokes which were coined on this matter. They are however worthy the attention of some modern Joe Miller and deserve to be corned down for preservation and use.

The corn-planters were variously affected, as their dispositions were various. Many laughed while the more testy when reminded of their cropt expectations would, like Commodore Trunnion, let off an oath to ruffle the current of their speech. Some were for running Grant Thorburn "up a Tree" higher than that of Haman. Indeed could the old man have heard a few of the many maledictions poured out upon him, he would have begged a "Tyburn Tippet" and permission to do his own hanging—and perhaps in mercy, Grant's petition for this purpose would have been granted him and care taken that he should have perfected his own execution.

There were others, who practised upon the poet's maxim:

"Mirth a ways should good fortune meet
And render e'en disaster sweet.

These were willing as a return for Grant's benevolent enterprise that he should be granted titles from all the crops on condition that he would gather them himself.

In this way matters proceeded until Jack Frost took the crop into his own hands—and he at once cropt short its existence. Early one October morning he whispered something in its ear that chilled its very life blood to freezing, and curdled the sweet milk of kindness which nurtured its bosom. Then those who speculated on the "rise of stalks" during the summer began to count the loss occasioned by their anticipated fall, in autumn. If the corn did not ripen—there was much ripe humor expended on it. If it did not get dry enough to cut up—there were the more jokes "cut and dried" and traced up on its account—on Saco-river the last, was emphatically a "Tall corn" year. (This corn was all and more, than it was "cracked up to be.")

Then there were Rohan potatoes. But these were no hoax. They were planted in little patches about our "diggings" and in the end, dug well. "Look here Tom" said a friend of mine as he exhumed a gigantic Rohan from the earth—"Don't that make your Irish mouth water?"—I was fain to confess that made into Irish Whiskey, and smacked off with the smoke of the peat fire, it would smack right well—and even if he would get a good bake on it" I promised not to be aneally-mouthed about buttering and eating it. The way the little potatoe hills clapped their hands for joy was mirth inspiring—truly. The murphies were "good nice big 'uns" and a good many of 'em in a hill.

But I have exceeded by far the limit I proposed myself and will stop here, for fear I shall get off my sheet and not get into yours.

Yours truly,

SALATHIEL.

Original.

State House, Augusta, Jan. 26, 1840.

MR. HOLMES:—In your paper of the 18th, I noticed a piece entitled "A Homespun Jacket a cure for hard times," which I think is correct. I merely wish to say that before I came to this place I was in want

of a coat. I called on the agent of one of our own factories, and gave orders for a piece of cloth for the same. I then bought a home made bed blanket to line it with. I then had a dog killed, and took his skin to line the collar;—and now, sir, I challenge any member of this House to produce a coat possessing so many good qualities as mine.

A MEMBER.

N. B. I paid for the cloth in wool of my own raising; I paid for the lining in wheat to a poor widow; the dog was my own,—and my wife made the coat.

GLASSING

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

(Continued from our last.)

Perfection of the Art, as stated in Notes on Daguerre's Photography. By SIR JOHN ROBISON.

Sir—in compliance with the request, that I should commit to writing and put into your hands the substance of what I communicated to the Society of Arts in reply to the questions put to me at the last meeting, I beg to state that circumstances having led to my being included in a small party of English gentlemen who were lately invited to visit the studio of M. Daguerre, to see the results of his discovery, I had an opportunity of satisfying myself, that the pictures produced by his process have no resemblance to any thing which, as far as I know, has yet been produced in this country; and that, excepting in the absence of color, they are as perfect images of the objects they represent, as are those which are seen by reflection from a highly polished surface. The perfection and fidelity of the pictures are such, that on examining them by microscopic power, details are discovered which are not perceivable to the naked eye in the original objects, but which, when searched for there by the aid of optical instruments, are found in perfect accordance: a crack in plaster, a withered leaf lying on a projecting cornice, or an accumulation of dust in a hollow moulding of a distant building, when they exist in the original, are faithfully copied in these wonderful pictures.

The subjects of most of the numerous specimens which I saw, were views of streets, boulevards, and buildings, with a considerable number of what may be termed interiors with still life; among the latter were various groups made up of plaster-casts and other works of art. It is difficult to express intelligibly a reason for the charm which is felt in beholding these pictures; but I think it must arise, in some measure, from finding that so much of the effect which we attribute to color, is preserved in the picture, although it consist only in light and shade; these however are given with such accuracy, that in consequence of different materials reflecting light differently, it is easy to recognize those of which the different objects in the groups were formed. A work in white marble is at once distinguished from one in plaster-of-Paris by the translucency of the edges of the one, and the opacity of the other. Among the views of buildings, the following were remarkable: A set of three pictures of the same group of houses, one taken soon after sunrise, one at noon, and one taken in the evening; in these the change of aspect produced by the variations in the distribution of light, was exemplified in a way which art could never attain to.

One specimen was remarkable from its showing the progress made by light in producing the picture. A plate having been exposed during 30 seconds to the action of light, and then removed, the appearance of the view was that of the earliest dawn of day; there was a grey sky, and a few corners of buildings and other objects beginning to be visible through the deep black in which all the rest of the picture was involved.

The absence of figures from the streets, and the perfect way in which the stones of the causeway and the foot-pavements are rendered, is at first sight rather puzzling, though a little reflection satisfies one that passing objects do not remain long enough to make any perceptible impression, and that (interfering only for a moment with the light reflected from the road,) they do not prevent a nearly accurate picture of it being produced.

Vacillating objects make indistinct pictures, e. g. a person getting his boot cleaned by a decrotteur gave a good picture, except that having moved his head in speaking to the shoe-black, his hat was out of shape, and the decrotteur's right arm and brush were represented by a half-tinted blot, through which the foot of the gentleman was partially visible.

There can be no doubt that when M. Daguerre's process is known to the public, it will be immediately applied to numberless useful purposes, as by means of it, accurate views of architecture, machinery, &c., may be taken, which being transferred to copper or

to stone, may be disseminated at a cheap rate; and useful books on many subjects may be got up with copious illustrations, which are now too costly to be attainable: even the fine arts will gain, for the eyes accustomed to the accuracy of Daguerretype pictures will no longer be satisfied with bad drawing, however splendidly it may be colored. In one department, it will give valuable facility. Anatomical and surgical drawings, so difficult to make with the fidelity which it is desirable they should possess, will then be easily produced by a little skill and practice in the disposition of the subjects and of the lights.

It is a curious circumstance that, at the same time that M. Daguerre has made this beautiful and useful discovery in the art of delineation, another Parisian artist has discovered a process by which he makes solid casts in plaster of small animals or other objects, without seams or repairs, and without destroying the model, (Moulage d'une seule piece, sans couture ni repavage, et avec conservation parfaite du modele.) I am in possession of several specimens of his work, among which are casts of the hand of an infant of six months, so delicately executed, that the skin shows evident marks of being affected by some slight eruptive disease. I am, dear Sir, very faithfully yours,

JOHN ROBISON.

JAMES TOD, Esq., Secretary to the Society of Arts.
Edinburgh, 1st June, 1839.

RECEIPTS FOR MAKING INK.

From Ure's Dictionary.

Black Ink. Nut-galls, sulphate of iron, and gum, are the only substances truly useful in the preparation of ordinary ink; the other things often added merely modify the shade, and considerably diminish the cost to the manufacturer upon the great scale. Many of these inks contain little gallic acid, or tannin, and are therefore of inferior quality. To make 12 gallons of ink we may take,—

12 pounds of nutgalls,
5 pounds of green sulphate of iron,
5 pounds of gum senegal,
12 gallons of water.

The bruised nutgalls are to be put into a cylindrical copper, of a depth equal to its diameter, and boiled, during three hours, with three fourths of the above quantity of water, taking care to add fresh water to replace what is lost by evaporation. The decoction is to be emptied into a tub, allowed to settle, and the clear liquor being drawn off, the lees are to be drained. Some recommend the addition of a little bullock's blood or white of egg, to remove a part of the tannin. But this abstraction tends to lessen the product, and will seldom be practiced by the manufacturer intent upon a large return for his capital. The gum is to be dissolved in a small quantity of hot water, and the mucilage, thus formed, being filtered, is added to the clear decoction. The sulphate of iron must likewise be separately dissolved, and well mixed with the above. The color darkens by degrees, in consequence of the peroxidization of the iron, on exposing the ink to the action of the air. But ink affords a more durable writing when used in the pale state, because its particles are then finer, and penetrate the paper more intimately. When ink consists chiefly of tannate of peroxide of iron, however black, it is merely superficial, and is easily erased or effaced. Therefore whenever the liquid made by the above prescription has acquired a moderately deep tint, it should be drawn off clear into bottles, and well corked up. Some ink-makers allow it to mould a little in the casks before bottling, and suppose that it will thereby be not so liable to become mouldy in the bottles. A few bruised cloves, or other aromatic perfume added to ink, is said to prevent the formation of mouldiness, which is produced by the ova of infusoria animalcules. I prefer digesting the galls, to boiling them.

The operation may be abridged, by peroxidizing the coppers beforehand, by moderate calcination in an open vessel; but, for the reasons above assigned, ink made with such a sulphate of iron, however agreeable to the ignorant, when made to shine with gum and sugar, under the name of japan ink, is neither the most durable nor the most pleasant to write with.

From the comparatively high price of gall-nuts, sumach, logwood, and even oak bark, are too frequently substituted, to a considerable degree, in the manufacture of ink.

The ink made by the prescription given above, is much more rich and powerful than many of the inks commonly sold. To bring it to their standard, a half more water may safely be added, or even 20 gallons of tolerable ink may be made from that weight of materials, as I have ascertained.

(To be continued.)



PROCEEDINGS OF KEN. CO. AG. SOCIETY.

Original.

STATEMENT ON SWINE. The sow pig offered by me for your inspection, judgment and award, is of the Berkshire breed, and the most perfect of that breed I was able to find in Massachusetts. Fat as you see she is, I do assure you she has had no extraordinary keeping. Her ordinary living through the summer has been on swill made up of water, the fragments from my table and a little oat meal or wheat bran, and this she has shared with a pig a month older than herself, of which I am sorry I cannot say that he used his power over her as not abusing it. He was by no means content to share equally with her. Since the first of September, barley meal has been substituted for the oat meal and bran which had then become exhausted. From the moment I first saw her at 5 weeks old to the present time, her appearance and points have been precisely the same, differing only in size. I regard her as the handsomest shaped, the best behaved and the most easily fattened pig I ever knew. The sire, the dam, the other pigs of the same litter, 7 in all, and one six months old of a previous litter I had an opportunity of seeing, and they were all of the same character. She was farrowed on the 18th of April, and is of course between 5 and 6 months old. I propose to keep her for a breeder.

Yours Respectfully.

A. NOURSE.

Original.

ON SWINE. My sow in the care of Mr Blackinton, was one year old in the early part of last May,—is a mixture of the Mackey, Bedford, and Berkshire breeds. Her eight pigs with her are her first litter. They were sired by Messrs. Gliddens' full blooded Tuscarora Boar,—were farrowed the seventh day of last month, of course they were 30 days old yesterday. One, considered an average, weighed this morning 23 pounds. The sow was taken from her dam the next morning after she was farrowed, because her mother had 14 pigs. She was very well fed for a short time, as she has also been since she farrowed,—the residue of the time she has been kept as usual on the refuse of a small family, roots, cut, boiled, &c. I pledge myself that she shall be kept, if living, in the County of Kennebec for a year to come,—she was farrowed mine, and by me owned ever since. Her pigs will declare what she is as a breeder, as well as the value of Mr Glidden's boar to breed from. Please consider their size and age. Both sow and pigs were duly entered for premium by me.

SAM'L. WOOD.

Original.

ON SWINE.—The boar which I offer for premium is of the Berkshire breed, introduced into this County from England by Elias Phinney of Lexington, Massachusetts. He was dropped on the 18th day of April last. I procured him from Lexington when six weeks old. For the first two or three weeks he had some milk, and since then he had the wash of the house and what meal he would eat. Since the potatoes were large enough to boil, he has had boiled pumpkins and potatoes with a little meal and the wash of the house. I consider this breed superior for fattening, and it is considered the best breed known in Massachusetts.

I also offer one boar five months old, of the full blood Bedford breed. His keeping has been the same as the one last mentioned.

I also offer for premium one sow one year old in June last of the breed last abovementioned and her eight pigs dropped on the twentieth of September last. During the summer before the last, the sow was kept as store pigs are usually kept. During the winter she had about six quarts of raw mangel-wortzel per day, till within three weeks of her farrowing—when she had the wash of the house. While her pigs were on her she had a little meal with the wash of the house. After weaning her pigs she was turned to grass and kept on grass till within three weeks of her having the second litter. Since then she has had the wash of the house with boiled pumpkins and potatoes and a little meal.

This is a very superior breed of swine, and I have no doubt I can raise a pound and a half of pork from this breed easier and cheaper than one pound from swine of common breed.

I also offer for premium one sow two years old last spring—seven eighths Bedford and one eighth Mackay, and her litter of nine pigs which will be one month old the eleventh of this October. She was bred by H. G. Cole of Hallowell. Her keeping the

first year was the wash of the house. The second year she had roots in the winter and grass and the wash of the house, till she had her pigs in the summer. She has raised at four litters, thirtytwo pigs.—She is considered by Cole who raised her as a very superior animal, and it was his opinion, he could keep two of her as easy as he could one of the common breed.

J. W. HAINS.

October, 9, 1839.

Original.

ON STEER CALVES.—The steer calves which I offer for premium were dropped, one the 17th, the other 21st of April last. They were taken from the cows and learned to drink at two days old; they were allowed the new milk of one cow for the two, till four weeks old, then skimmed milk and meal till the first of July since which they have had no milk, but have eaten 11-2 cwt. of oil cake.

I estimated the cost of rearing as follows, to wit:

Four weeks keeping on new milk	\$1.25
per week,	\$5.00
1 1-2 bushels of Indian meal 1.00 per bu.	1.50
8 weeks feed on skimmed milk .25 per week (about its value for hogs)	2.00
1 1-2 cwt. oil cake	1.50

Whole cost

\$10.00

From this and some other experiments I am convinced that I can raise better calves and at less cost in the above described mode, than in the usual way of letting them suck the milk from the cows. The milk of either of the cows which brought these calves was worth not less than one dollar and a half per week during the time the calves were fed on skimmed milk; this sum added to the five dollars, the cost of keeping the four first weeks would amount to seventeen dollars. You will judge whether the milk of one cow for twelve weeks would have made as good calves, as the other mode of keeping has produced; I think not. If we can have better calves and at seven dollars less expense, this method is worth adopting. I would remark, that in my opinion, there is no so good substitute for milk, for young animals, as oil cake. The breed of the calves may be ascertained from the following statement; the dam of one of them is one of the French bull's calves which took the first premium of the society in 1835 as the "best Milch Cow," the other is from a three year old heifer, a calf of the first described sired by my bull. The calf from the old cow was sired by my bull, that from the heifer, by a young bull raised by John Hewet of Hallowell; the same took the premium of the society as the best bull calf in 1836. From the above it will be seen that the calves are a grade above half bloods of the "Improved Durham Short Horn breed."

NATHAN FOSTER.

Original.

ON BULLS.—The Bull called "the Bolivar" by me offered for premium was one year old the 7th day of last April. He was from my cow "The Young Twin Mother, sired by the full blood Durham Short Horn Bull Bolivar, brought into this County by James Bridge Esquire from Massachusetts. The cow was of the breed introduced by Sanford Howard Esq. He took about three quarters of cow's milk till he was seven weeks old. He was then taken from the cow, and through the summer season was fed on hay, grass, and potatoes. During the winter he was kept on coarse hay and straw with about a half a peck of turnips a day. Through the last spring and summer he has been fed on good hay and has had some provender, how much I am unable to state.

The breed of this bull I consider superior to any I am acquainted with, for the purposes of the dairy, fattening and labor.

I also offer a bull calf three months old the 4th of October inst. He was from a two year old heifer of the same blood as the bull abovementioned—sired by a bull kept and introduced into this State by Sanford Howard. He had his mother's milk till he was some weeks old. He was then taken from her and has had about two gallons of milk per day, since that time.—He has been kept to hay and has also been fed on corn stalks and mangle wortzel leaves.

J. W. HAINS.

Original.

ON BULLS.—I offer for your inspection and for the purpose of competing for the Society's premium my Durham Short Horn Bull, "SIR JOHN HARVEY." I purchased said Bull last spring of L. Egelow, Esq. of Worcester, Mass. He arrived in Winthrop about the last of April; and has stood for the last season at my stable in Winthrop, and has been to fifty two cows. In regard to his pedigree, &c. I will give an extract from a letter received from J. H. Goodrich, Esq. of Worcester, to Hon. Sam'l P. Benson of this town, in relation to this Bull before I purchased him.

"The Best Bull Calf in the County of Worcester is the one owned by Lewis Bigelow, Esq. of Worcester. He was ten months old the 15th of Feb. 1839. When six months old he weighed 736 lbs. I have just returned from a visit to his Bullship. Mr. B. says he

will warrant him to weigh 950 lbs. He took the first premium at the Cattle Show of this County, (Worcester.) Mr. B. was offered fifty dollars for him at the time. He has had no extra keeping, and never, as I am assured, ate a quart of any kind of grain in his whole short life. The pedigree of this "Chap" is as follows:—His grandfather was the full blood imported bull "Hercules," of the Short Horn or Durham breed said to have weighed 4000 lbs. (The celebrated Butman Bull of Dixmont is also one of his hopeful sons) His grandmother was a half blood of the same breed, owned by Col. John W. Lincoln. His father is the issue of the two above mentioned "gentry" and is 3-4 Durham. His mother, still owned by Mr. Bigelow, is, I think, 1-2 blood. He is then 5-8 Durham. The mother of this young Bull is a noble animal—good color, red, like her son, large size, 8 years old next spring."

The Bull since I have had him has been kept up a part of the time and a part of the time has run out, and has had no extra keeping. He is active, healthy and gentle, easily kept and apparently of a hardy constitution. I think I may safely say he is a sure sire.

ISAAC NELSON.

Winthrop, Oct. 9, 1839.

Original.

ROOTS FOR STOCK.

MR. HOLMES.—One would suppose that all that could be said, written, or sung, upon this subject had already been laid before your readers in its every form. But I notice in the Semi-Annual report of the Trustees of the K. Co. Ag. Society, after mentioning the several objections &c. they say "between them, they prove them all to be good." Very true and do not they all make good their objections? Have we not seen it proved to a demonstration that potatoes will make a cow grow poor and that beets are not fit for hogs to eat. But I believe their "power to kill" is derived solely from the dirt which is fed to them with the roots, and I have seen a man feed his hogs on boiled roots and meal when had he fed the meal to them and thrown the roots upon the dunghill he would have been as well off, and his hogs as fat. I have also known several cows to die and many more made sick by this mode of management. Although potatoes may be better for table use for having a coat of dirt on, yet for stock they should be harvested as clean as possible, or washed before they are fed out. If you wish your cattle to have dirt, put the dirt in one dish and the roots in another and let them eat to suit themselves.

ALBERT WINGATE.

Bangor, Jan. 1840.

Corn Puzzle. The following "puzzle for the curious" appears in the Worcester Journal.—If a person were to take a single wheat corn in his pocket to market on New Year's day, and double the same every week for 52 weeks, or till New Year's day again, it would amount to more loads of wheat, 20 bags each, 3 bushels to a bag, than it would take bank-notes to build a stack 25 times higher than the top of St. Paul's, London (supposing a stack could be built.) reckoning the building 144 yards, and allowing 190 notes to an inch. 2d. After this was deducted there would be more loads left, 20 bags each, than any ten millers ever bought bags of wheat in their lives, allowing each to buy weekly 2000 bags for eighty years. 3d. After this deduction there would be more loads, 20 bags each, remaining than it would take bank-notes to cover 100 square acres of ground, allowing each note to measure 6 inches by 4. 4th. After this deduction there would be more loads left than the wheel of a coach would turn round times in a distance of 1200 miles, supposing the wheel to measure 17 feet in circumference. 5th. This would leave more loads than it would take barley corns to reach from Worcester to Alcester, a distance of 17 miles, allowing three barley corns to an inch. 6th. This would leave more loads than it would take tons of coal to supply the city of Worcester for 30 years, allowing 83 barge or boat loading to be brought every week for 30 years, and allowing each barge or boat to carry 60 tons, which would load 137,280 boats or barges, 60 tons each. 7th. After these deductions there would be more loads left, 20 bags each, than it would take pounds to build sixteen county courts, allowing each to cost £50,000. 8th. There would be more loads remaining than it would take bags, three bushels each, to load 3000 barges, allowing each barge to carry 500 bags. 9th. After all these deductions there would be wheat enough left to find 2500 persons in bread for 66 years, allowing each person to eat annually nine bags. All the quantity of corn together would load 1,125,899 ships, 1000 quarters each. The amount of all the number of corns is 4,503,599,627,370,495. Reckoning 500,000 corns to fill a bushel, is 9,007,199,254 bushels. Number of bags, 3 bushels each, 3,002,399,751. Number of loads, 20 bags each, 150,119,987.

THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

To the readers of the Farmer we offer cordial salutations, and would gladly make some slight returns for the kind greetings and generous hospitality experienced in the families of the Farmers of Maine. Introduction by any marked formalities we need not, in proposing a weekly or occasional visit through the columns of this paper, provided the messages we bring are worthy of the columns, or of the readers; and if unworthy, no introduction, however formal, could be a sufficient apology. We shall hope to render our interviews agreeable and profitable, whether at weekly intervals, or with less of regularity. One subject which we shall hold dear is that of *general education*. If the time has not arrived for the support of Periodicals in Maine devoted chiefly to this subject, it may fairly be presumed that the readers of our State generally will welcome the discussion of the subject in our established journals. Among these, what more suitable medium may be found than the *Maine Farmer*—The pioneer in agricultural improvements—the encourager of the arts and of honest industry in all its productive channels?

What class of people have a deeper interest at stake in the universal diffusion of knowledge and the prevalence of virtue than the Farmers? If ignorance, vice and poverty prevail and burden a state with taxes and costs of litigation, and the detection and punishment of crime, the laboring and producing classes of the community must foot the bills. The farmers must bear a large proportion of the burden, and it need not be urged that it is better economy to educate a people than to support the vices and ruinous waste the ignorance, and improvidence which are sure to exist without education.

The Farmers have certainly a very large portion of the community to educate. They are a large class—several other professions must be united to equal them in numbers. Their proportion in numbers is greatly increasing by volunteers from the other professions, and their responsibilities in the great work of education are yearly increasing. Their ability to meet their responsibilities too is rapidly increasing. The pecuniary embarrassments which have crushed multitudes in other professions, have effected the farmer injuriously but little, if at all, till very recently, and now he has the capacity for enduring them, which few other professions can furnish.

Can it be supposed that the farmer has not his full share of interest in this great subject? We will not believe it.—Who can doubt that he feels as deep an interest in the training up of his children as in the training of his calves, his lambs, or his colts? There need be no less interest in the rearing of animals, but there ought to be more in the training of rational beings. That increasing interest is felt we have satisfactory evidence, and the increasing attention to agriculture is one of the surest pledges that better views of education are to be cherished. Extensive excursions recently made in the State have afforded some opportunities for noting the progress of interest in Education and of Agriculture and of productive industry in other departments, the results of which we may occasionally communicate.

EXCURSIONS IN MAINE AND THOUGHTS BY THE WAY.

Penobscot valley.—This section of the State has been a point of considerable attraction, and the theatre of varied scenes during the last few years. A recent excursion to the metropolis of this region has revived a variety of reminiscences, and occasioned reflections to which we are inclined to give utterance.—It is now more than twelve years since our first acquaintance with this interesting region, and the changes within this period deserve a passing notice. The territory originally embraced in the county of Penobscot is nearly or quite as large as the state of Massachusetts, but in 1820 had a population of only about 18,870. In 1830 it had increased to 31,530, and in 1837 the number exceeded 55,000.

This increase of population is not the only change deserving notice. There have been important changes in the habits of the people. In 1827 a temperance society was formed in a frontier town some forty miles north of Bangor. This was a novelty in a region where the giant vice it was designed to oppose had been strongly entrenched. At this period there was

hardly a village or hamlet in the whole region where the signals of the spoils were not visible, and where victims might not be seen staggering in the streets in open day. Bangor was the great fountain of death and the poisoning floods were unsealed in almost every store and tavern in the whole valley. But a change had commenced, and conscience was silently remonstrating. Discussion and organized action succeeded. The torturing streams flowed less copiously, and, in many places, were dried up. Noble energies were developed in this process, and the elements of prosperity were gradually unfolding. A desire for sabbath schools was early apparent, and in the course of two seasons we had opportunity to assist personally in organizing some fifty of these, a large part of which gradually acquired a good degree of maturity. The organization of churches, and the erection of houses of public worship by the several denominations have succeeded, and an increase of interest in the common schools, and the progress of general education, is manifest in all the region. In no part of the state have changes been more rapid, or more auspicious till the unnatural action of the speculating mania, and the pecuniary embarrassments gave a check to every desirable impulse. There was a spirit of enterprise, an energy of character, which dared to expect and attempt great things. There may have been a degree of rashness and giddiness in the enterprise of those times, but this was not more the sin of this region than of others. It belonged rather to the era. It was not sought for and excited by the people of this region so much as forced upon them by the greedy adventurers from other sections of the state and the other states. But it drew multitudes within its current. Men who had firmly set their faces against the fatal tide, and resolved to resist at all hazards were drawn insensibly from such decisions and shared in the giddy whirl of the general vortex. Bangor was the great centre of this devouring motion. The city grew, and its buildings multiplied too rapidly for the surrounding region—too rapidly for its own health and prosperity. Fine buildings demanded rich furniture and one family must do as well as another, and if possible a little better.—Rents and the expenses of living were beyond the means, as the means were vastly within their supposed limits. The means of multitudes were diminished by the inability of foreign capitalists to fulfil their engagements and the nature of business transactions was such that few persons could sink alone.

The crisis at length came. The common calamity of the country found this region unprepared and it has crushed not a mere nest of sharpers and swindlers, as some would have it, but has prostrated, and for a time, paralyzed scores of as active and honorable and energetic, and capable business men as any section of the country could boast. Not that any one might safely vouch for the honor or honesty of all the sufferers in recent embarrassments, but, there is certainly a possibility of doing injustice to character, in dealing out unqualified censure where sympathy would be more appropriate and more just. Censure in many cases is doubtless just. Self scrutiny in the review of the past is highly becoming the people at large at a time like the present. Little can be gained by casting stones, and nothing by the inactive complainings of self reproach. The real state of the case must indeed be admitted, and men may as well understand the truth of the case as not. Bangor has suffered a sad reverse, and these sufferings are not ended. Nor are these sufferings confined to the city. The whole region that finds its market there is suffering with the city. The suffering fell heavily at first upon the mechanics of the city, a very large number of whom had been necessarily employed, in erecting and furnishing its numerous, and expensive buildings. Whenever the mercantile and mechanical professions suffer thus, the farmers must sooner or later feel the effects; so true is it that the interest and the prosperity of one class are identified with those of another.

The speculating mania has had a peculiar action upon the farming interests. Some of this class forsook their farms and became engrossed in speculation. In haste to become rich they forsook the producing classes and became mere consumers; as if the surest way to enrich the country were for the people to live upon each other in the ratio of their bargaining and speculating wits. Every article of produce was in demand for every body almost must buy. They could buy for a time, for money was easy of access, and the expectation that it would remain so, made men careless of their credit. The produce of the farm was sold because it would bring a high price, and stock of all kinds was reduced for the same reason till the country was well nigh drained. Then came the peculiar state of things, exhausted finances and exhausted granaries. Scarcity of money with scarcity and high prices of bread and meat and these two elements have existed conjointly as long as they can.

Some good has grown out of this state of things.—Multitudes have learned lessons of lasting value, although the disciplinary process has been a severe one. Many have again become producers. Necessity has given impulse and honor to the cultivation of the soil, and taught men economy in the use of its productions.

But while these lessons are thus impressively taught, there is reason to fear that another must be learned in connexion with them; viz: that prosperous agriculture is dependent upon a good market. It need not be surprising if so strong an impulse should be given to this department as to draw men to an injurious extent from the mercantile and mechanical professions, and overstock the market by diminishing its extent and increasing its productions. The numerous stores, and blocks of stores now closed in Bangor, indicate such a result as probable. If there has been overtrading, there is reason to fear that its channels of trade will be closed too abruptly, and exclusively, and a wide extent of country suffer in consequence. The country around Bangor must have an extensive market, and the city is its natural location. The city must of necessity revive and its business again become extensive and prosperous. Even if its present business men were all to be prostrated and the business of the city all to cease, this cessation could not be of long duration for the necessities of a great and growing population stretching over an immense territory would revive it. But there are energies still remaining there which will survive. When faith and patience are sufficiently tested the clouds will disperse and a brighter day will dawn. There are now omens of good worthy of notice in the city.

The public schools of Bangor were never probably in a better state. Their condition is such as to supercede almost entirely the demand for private schools.—The public high school for girls is thronged so as to render additional accommodations necessary. More vigorous scholarship it is believed will be found in the schools now, than in the days of commercial prosperity.

The Lyceum of Bangor was never in a more prosperous condition than during the present winter. We had the privilege of hearing a rich lecture from Prof. Packard of Bowdoin College before a crowded audience in the city hall and several distinguished lecturers from abroad are engaged for the winter, beside the productions of members of the institution.

The Mechanics Association too, is in a very flourishing condition. It is free from debt with a beautiful Hall fitted up in good style for its weekly meetings.—Its library and cabinet of minerals and collection of shells and other natural and artificial curiosities occupy the end of the Hall in rear of the President's chair. The walls are also ornamented with maps, charts, and other objects of interest, from our own and other countries. In this hall we were permitted to address a large and vigorous body of citizens on the Resources, the population, Institutions, Interests and prospects of our state. Among the audience were many well known countenances who ten or twelve years ago were laying the firm basis of this flourishing institution, and who have been among the strong men, the tried men, in the times of prosperity and adversity which the city has experienced. The energies and productive skill of such men are not easily exhausted. The president of the Lyceum, and many of its active officers and members, have been trained in this Association. The cheerful co-operation of merchants, mechanics, members of the Bar and the other professions in these means of popular instruction, as well as in the support of the public schools give ample assurance that there are energies have which will outlive the present embarrassments, and lead on a season of prosperity resting upon a more stable foundation.

We might notice as another favorable indication, the habits of economy and good management which the present times are forming. In business and domestic arrangement there is already a desirable change and multitudes will dare to practice these cardinal virtues, industry and economy, who a few years since seemed to be freed from their necessity.

Nor may we overlook the continued interest in the means of religious instruction. The sanctuaries of the city are not forsaken, nor the Gospel left unnoticed in these times of trial. The trial of moral principle for a few years has been severe. Some may not abide it, but multitudes will, and the energy of religious faith be displayed and extended by the shock which adversity has occasioned.

To manage a Rearing Horse. In preference to the dangerous experiment of pulling a rearing horse backward, I recommend the adoption of the following method:—Whenever you perceive the horse's inclination to rear, separate your reins and prepare for him; the instant he is about to rise, slacken one hand and bend or twist his head with the other, keeping your hands low. This bending compels him to move a hind leg, and of necessity brings his fore feet down. Instantly twist him completely round two or three times, which will confuse him very much, and completely throw him off his guard. The moment you have finished twisting him round, place his head in the direction you wish him to proceed, apply the spur sharply, and he will not fail to go forward: if the situation be convenient, press him into a gallop, and apply the spur, and whip two or three times (but not more) severely. The horse will perhaps, not be quite satisfied with the

first defeat, but may feel disposed to try again for the mastery. Should this be the case, you have only to twist him, &c. as before, and you will find that in the second struggle he will be more easily subdued than on the first occasion—in fact, you will perceive him quail under the operation. It rarely happens that a rearing horse, after having been treated in the way described, will resort to his tricks a third time. But on going into other hands, and having another rider, he will be very likely to have recourse to rearing.—*The Sportsman.*

SUMMARY.

To Agents.

When Agents make remittances it is very important to us that they distinctly state to whom the money is to be credited, and at what Post Office each paper paid for is sent, as we cannot otherwise well find the name on our books.

When payment is made in produce, according to our terms, and left in the hands of Agents, information should in all cases be given us, so that we need not by any means call on the same individuals again. (See terms on the last page.)

Agents who receive produce on our account may in all cases dispose of it for cash, at their discretion, if opportunity offers, and forward the amount to us.

CONGRESS.—In Senate, on Jan. 17, Mr. Williams of Maine offered a resolution calling for all the correspondence in relation to the Boundary question, between Maine, the President and Great Britain. An amendment was offered by Mr. Ruggles calling for information from the President of the U. S. in relation to the occupancy of the disputed territory in Maine by British armed troops. Also whether such possession was made by authority—whether application had been made and leave granted. After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed to. In the course of the debate, Mr. Buchanan remarked that he regarded the aspect of affairs in relation to this question as quite serious.

Considerable time has recently been taken up in the Senate in discussing the Sub-Treasury bill.

In the House several long speeches have been made in relation to some proposed modes for the disposition of Abolition petitions, and touching the question of Slavery.

THE LEXINGTON.

Additional particulars. Several more bodies have drifted ashore and been picked up on Long Island.

A writing desk belonging to Capt. Eleazer Kimball, containing \$430, has been recovered.

It is said \$15,000 were found on the body of Wm. A. Greene, and are in the hands of the Coroner.

It will be recollected that Mr. Crowley, the second mate of the Lexington, after drifting about fifty miles on a bale of cotton, got ashore on Long Island, not far from River Head. The Sag Harbor Coroner gives the following particulars:

It appears from Crowley's account, that the boat was first discovered to be on fire off Huntington, at about 7 o'clock—that he soon took to a plank, but shortly left it for a bale of cotton, on which he drifted until Wednesday evening, when he landed at New Gully, and made his way to the house of Mathias Hutchinson—having drifted in that time somewhere about 50 miles, and absolutely sleeping at times. He wore two flannel shirts, but had on no shoes or hat. Every care was taken of him at Hutchinson's. It was thought he will lose some of his toes, and one finger, on which he had a ring which impeded the circulation.

George Cram, of Whiting, and another man whose name our informant did not know, were burnt to death at Trescott, on the night of the 17th inst. They were at a camp but a short distance from a Mr. Wilcox's in Trescott, who discovered the camp to be on fire about 10 o'clock, but before he could render these unfortunate men any assistance they were both burnt in the most shocking manner, and life was extinct.

Mr. Cram was a young unmarried man of enterprise and great worth, and has left a large number of relatives, and sympathizing friends. The other man has left a wife and children.

Fairfield, Jan. 20, 1840.

Messrs. Littlefield & Hill, Editors of the Skowhegan Sentinel. Perusing your paper of the 20th inst. I find the following statement. "The Small Pox has broken out in Fairfield, at Kendall's Mills. Five cases have occurred." The object of this communication is to correct the above statement. There is no case at Kendall's Mills. There have been but two cases where the least suspicion was entertained, and they were immediately removed to Clinton, where they belonged. There have occurred in Clinton 19 cases, 2 deaths, and 13 now sick.—*Skowhegan Sen.*

Marblehead Fishing Vessels.—The following facts

speaking the strongest testimony in favor of the skill, prudence and temperance of the commanders and seamen of the fishing fleets belonging to Marblehead.

The number of vessels employed in the cod fishery from Marblehead, is about eighty, of which number not one was lost in 1838, and from all the crews only two men were lost. In 1839, one vessel was lost, and not a single man.—*Bost. Phoenix.*

The Editor of the Portland Transcript publishes a Poem commencing with the following pathetic stanza, and touching remarks: "We have read some little poetry in our day and have been variously affected by it, but our feelings were never so wrought upon as in reading the following lines."

When the cold storm howls round your door,
And you, by light of taper,
Sit cozily by the evening fire
Enjoying the last paper—
Just think of him whose work thus helps
To wear away the winter.
And put this query to yourself—
Have I paid up the PRINTER?

Counterfeit Bills are in circulation—fives of the Maine Bank, Portland, and threes of the State Bank Boston.—*Bangor Whig.*

The President of Texas has forbidden by proclamation, the interference of Texas with the Mexican civil war.

The Pacha of Egypt has relinquished the monopoly of the produce of the country, by which it could be sold for export only by him; and the subjects of his pachalic may now trade on their own hook.

Flogging in the Navy.—The Secretary of the Navy has recently issued an order, prohibiting the flogging of sailors; and making it imperative that such punishment shall be strictly conformable to law, and always by order and in presence of the captain.

On the 8th instant, flour sold at Zanesville for three dollars a barrel, and wheat at fifty cents a bushel.

Nearly half a column in the Courier and Enquirer is occupied with advertisements from the friends of those who perished in the Lexington offering liberal rewards for the recovery of their bodies.

Robert Harvey has been appointed Post Master, at Glenburn, Penobscot Co., Me.

There is a report by way of Jackson, Tennessee, from Texas, that Gen. Samuel Houston had been shot, in a personal rencontre, by the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives—no hope entertained of his recovery. Houston was a member from St. Augustine county.

All the vessels in New York Harbor have had their flags at half mast, since the disaster to the Lexington.

The small-pox is prevailing at New Bedford, (Mass.) As many as 300 cases have recently occurred.

A large number of mechanics and traders went from the North to New Orleans last fall, expecting to find unusual opportunities for employment, but the supply proved greater than the demand, and many have been obliged to return.

During the past year 442 vessels were totally wrecked, and 537 lives lost, besides 37 vessels reported as missing, the crews of which are also supposed to be lost.

A bill has passed the Senate of Kentucky, repealing the act in force, prohibiting the importation of slaves into that State.

A great fire broke out in Wilmington, N. C., on the 17th Jan. which consumed about one hundred and fifty buildings. Loss not stated.

The Boundary Question.—We confess ourselves startled at the serious character of the remarks made on Friday last, in the Senate, by Mr. Buchanan and others, upon the Maine Boundary Question. Mr. Buchanan is the Chairman of the Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations; and to whatever falls from him, therefore, on the subject of those relations, much consideration is justly due. We are pained to learn, from his lips, that serious difficulties are apprehended with the British Government before the controversy concerning the Boundary is brought to a close. We are, we repeat, sorry to hear it, having confidence in the honorable Senator, that he would not say so if he did not think so. We had hoped—nay, we still hope—better things. We cannot bring ourselves to believe that the dispute upon this point can be carried to extremities between two nations having the good feeling towards each other which the people and governments of Great Britain and the United States now really have.—*National Intelligencer.*

FIRE.—We are sorry to learn that a Cotton Factory, Lisbon, in this State, was wholly destroyed by fire, on Monday morning of last week. Loss estimated at \$30,000. Whether the building was insured or not, we are not informed.—*Argus.*

The Quebec Mercury publishes a singular "Memorandum" or proclamation, said to have been issued by Sir

John Harvey, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, recommending to the inhabitants of the frontier districts of province, as the most prudent course to be pursued, "in the event of hostilities with United States," the observance of "a strict neutrality." And this course, to be effectual, he intimates, must be pursued on both sides.

The small bills of the Middling Interest Bank are no longer redeemed.

Accident.—Aaron Brown of Wilton, had his skull badly fractured, at Moose Head Lake, recently, by the fall of a tree. But little hope is entertained of his recovery.

North Eastern Boundary.—The National Gazette of Tuesday says in relation to this subject, "that an express from the Governor General of Canada, with despatches for the British Minister at Washington, arrived in this city last night in the very short time of five days from Toronto, U. C. and proceeded to Washington in the rail road line, at 8 o'clock this morning."

We learn from the Providence Journal that several suits have been commenced against the owners of the Lexington, by persons in that city who had goods on board.

It is reported that the Collector of New York received instructions from the Comptroller of the Treasury to make a thorough investigation into the cause of the destruction of the steamer Lexington, to the end that it may be reported to the department, whether the act of Congress in relation to the navigation of steamboats has been complied with.

The dwelling house and store of Mr. James Brewster in Shirleyburg, Pa. was destroyed by fire on the 2d inst. and horrid to relate three persons perished in the flames.

BANK NOTE TABLE.

List of Broken Banks in New-England.

Burrillville, R. I.	Kennebec, Me.
Commonwealth, Boston	Lafayette, South Boston.
Cheisea Bank, Chelsea, Ms.	Middlesex, Cambridge.
Castine, Me.	Nahant Bank, Lynn, Ms.
Derby, Conn.	Norfolk, at Roxbury, Ms.
Eagle, New Haven, Conn.	Oldtown, at Orono, Me.
Fulton, Boston, Ms.	Passamaquoddy, Eastport,
Franklin, at South Boston	Roxbury, Ms.
Farmers', Belchertown, Ms.	Wiscasset, Me.

List of Banks in New-England, whose charters have expired; Sutton Bank, Wilkinsonville, Ms., Farmers & Mechanics, Pewtucket, R. I.; Bath Bank, Me.; Winthrop Bank, Me.; Kennebank Bank, at Arundel, Me.; Bangor Bank, Me.; Saco Bank, Me.; "old Cumberland Bank, Portland, Me.; Newburyport Bank, Mass.; "Waterville Bank, Me.; Concord, (Sparhawk, casier), N. H.; "Mendon Bank, Mass.; Phoenix Bank, Naticket, Mass.; Damariscotta Bank, Damariscotta, Me.

* The bills of these Banks are still received.

The Providence banks have resumed specie payments, except the Commercial.

Bills not received at the Suffolk Bank.

	per ct. discount.
MAINE. Agricultural at Brewer,	10
Bangor Commercial,	10
City, at Portland,	10
Calais, at Calais,	15
Damariscotta Bank,	10
Frankfort Bank, at Frankfort,	10 a 15
Georgia Lumber Co. at Portland,	5
Globe, at Bangor,	10
Mercantile, at Bangor,	10
Oxford Bank, at Fryeburg, fraud.	
Oldtown, at Orono, no sale.	
Medonak, at Waldoboro',	5
Stillwater Canal, at Orono,	20
Westbrook, at Westbrook,	5
Washington County, at Calais,	25
NEW-HAMPSHIRE. Wolfborough Bank,	75
MASSACHUSETTS. Commonwealth, Boston,	30
Chelsea,	80
Fulton, at Boston,	30
Farmers & Mechanics', Adams, South Vil., no sale.	
Middling Interest, at Boston,	20 a 25
Middlesex, at Cambridge,	5
Norfolk, at Roxbury,	15
Nahant,	80
Roxbury, no sale.	
RHODE-ISLAND. Seitate Bank,	20
All Providence City Banks,	3-4
All others in the State,	2
VERMONT. Bennington, at Bennington,	8
Essex, at Guilford,	75
Manchester, at Manchester	2 a 5
St. Albans, at St. Albans,	7 a 10
CONNECTICUT. Housatonic Rail Road Co.	3 a 4
Bridgeport at Bridgeport,	3 a 4
Stamford at Stamford,	3 a 4
Fairfield County Bank,	3 a 4

Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Bangor Democrat, dated

"MASSARDIS, Jan. 14, 1840.

"I was informed by a man who arrived this evening from Madawaska, that the British have fitted up a

large house at the mouth of the Madawaska river, on the south side of the St. John, for the accommodation of their soldiers, and that they have a corporal and a few soldiers, and that they have a soldiers there at present.

It is said that the house will accommodate 500 men. My informant also states that he had a conversation with a British officer, who told him that there were four companies at Temiscouata Lake, and that two Regiments in addition were on their way to the same place. These movements indicate a determination on their part to take permanent possession of the territory."

The officers of the Scotch criminal courts create disturbance by calling "Silence" to the auditory. In Cork they manage better; they write "Silence" in large letters on a piece of pasteboard, stick it into the cleft end of a long white rod, and wave it in the face of any one whose voice is heard rising above a whisper. If this does not produce quiescence, the admonition is enforced by a rap on the head with the rod.—*Phrenological Mag.*

The Count de Survilliers (Joseph Bonaparte) has taken up his residence in London for the winter.

Miss Victoria, Queen of England, will be twenty one years of age next May, at which time, it is said she will become a bride.

LEGISLATURE OF MAINE.

In Senate Thursday Jan. 23, finally passed—Resolve to authenticate the Probate records in Cumberland County—for relief of Alexander H. Thomson.

In the House—Report of the committee on the Treasurer's Bond came from the Senate accepted, and the House nonconcurrent. They approved of the Treasurer's Bond as good and sufficient, but recommended that the law be altered so as to require a bond for the penal sum of \$150,000 hereafter, instead of \$75,000.

On motion of Mr. Littlefield of Alfred, the Messenger was directed to reserve 200 copies of the rules and orders for the Legislature of 1841.

In Senate Friday, Jan. 24, A communication was received from the Secretary of State, transmitting the accounts of County Treasurers—and also the County Estimates for taxes.

Mr. Robinson introduced an order, that — with such as the House may join, be a committee to inquire what deduction, if any, may be made in the salaries of officers who draw pay from the State Treasury.

After some discussion, the order was passed, and Messrs. Robinson, Hammons, and Bradley were appointed the committee.

Mr. Otis of Hallowell, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill to provide for in part for the expenditures of Government, and on his motion it was laid on the table and 300 copies ordered. The bill appropriated about \$850,000 for current expenses, payment of public debt becoming due, &c. &c.

In the House Saturday, Jan. 25, The Committee on Finance reported in favor of assessing a State Tax of *two hundred thousand dollars!* They also reported a resolve, authorizing the Treasurer to procure a loan of \$200,000, at a rate of interest not to exceed six per cent.—and reimbursable at such periods (not exceeding twenty years) as he shall deem most advantageous for the State; which was read twice and passed to be engrossed.

In Senate Monday, Jan. 27, finally passed—Resolve authorizing the County Commissioners of Aroostook to borrow money.

Passed to be enacted—Bill to set off the town of Wales to the County of Kennebec.

In the House on motion of Mr. BENNETT of Parsonfield, the committee on Agriculture were directed to inquire into the expediency of repealing the law giving bounties on wild animals.

In Senate, Tuesday, Jan. 28—Legislation deemed inexpedient—on the question of making each County pay its own costs in criminal prosecutions.

In the House Finally passed—Resolve authorizing a loan in behalf of the State—in favor of Tobias Thomson—of Jonathan M. Smiley.

In Senate Wednesday Jan. 29, Legislation inexpedient—on the subject of furnishing towns with copies of reports on contested elections from 1820 to 1840.

In the House bill to repeal an act establishing the County of Aroostook, was read a third time and indefinitely postponed. The remainder of the day was spent on the subject of the China contested election.

The Message of the President communicating the information relative to the N. E. Boundary called for by the Resolve of the Senate, has been communicated and read before that body. We have not yet received a copy. A correspondent of the Baltimore Republican says: "Mr Fox denies that in placing troops on the Disputed territory, the British Government has any hostile designs. Its objects, he says, are pacific, and intended to continue peace between the two nations. Mr Forsyth replies somewhat tartly; does not see that the explanation is a good one; and adds that the President considers the stationing of British troops on the Disputed Territory a bold infringement of the stipulations entered into by Sir John Harvey and Gen. Scott."

The annual meeting of the Maine Temperance Union will be held at Augusta on the fourth day of February, at ten o'clock in the forenoon. The Temp. Gazette says, "A number of gentlemen have been invited to attend and address the Union on different topics connected with the Temperance reform; and we have some encouragement to expect Robert Rantoul, Jr. Esq. of Massachusetts will be present."

Married,

In Wilton, George Crockett, Esq. of Stetson, to Miss Mary S. Moore.

In Turner, Mr. Americus Crockett, of Abbot, to Miss Sylvia Ballou, of T.

In Mt. Vernon, Posey co. Indiana, Nov. 25, John Patterson of Industry, Me. to Miss Veronica U. M. Roche, formerly of Boston.

DIED,

In Bloomfield, on the 20th inst. very suddenly, Mr. Eliphalet Varney, aged 72 years.

In Augusta, on the 22d, Amos G. Goodwin, Esq. of Saco, Attorney at Law.

In Alton, Ill. Jan. 6, Mr. Gustavus W. Hawes, formerly of Boston, and son of Mr. Wm. Hawes, of N. Yarmouth, aged 34.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Jan. 20, 1840.

(From the New England Farmer.)

At market 320 Beef Cattle, and 800 Sheep. About 300 Sheep have been before reported.

Prices—Beef Cattle—The butchers were largely supplied last week, and consequently prices did not advance as much as was expected from the limited number at market. We quote first quality at \$6 25 a 6 50; second \$5 75 a 6 00; third \$4 75 a 5 50.

Barrelling Cattle—Mess \$5 50; No 1, \$5.

Cows and Calves—Very few at market, and very few if any sales effected.

Sheep—Lots were sold at \$2 50, 2 75, \$3, 3 75, 4 50, and 5 00.

Swine—None at Market.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

1840.

JAN. 11		Thermom.	Barometer.		Weather.	Wind.
24,	15 31 21	29.2	29.3	29.4	F. F. F.	sw. w.
25,	9 9 17	29.6	29.7	29.7	F. F. F.	n.w. n.w.
26,	5 13 12	29.85	29.9	29.9	F. F. F.	n.w. n.w.
27,	*8 14 14	29.9	29.95	29.9	F. F. F.	n.w. n.w.
28,	*4 15 15	30,	29.95	29.8	F. C. S.	n.w. n.
29,	19 33 29	29.8	29.75	29.8	F. C. S.	n.w. n.w.
30,	28 31 31	29.4	29.3	29.15	C. C. R.	n.w.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset. * Below zero.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Payments.

Wm Gould L	\$2.00	M H Metcalf W	2.00
L Gilbert L	2.00	J Maxwell W	2.00
M Sylvester L	2.00	J Crawley W	2.00
J W Smith S F	2.00	B Southworth W	2.00
J Durgin S S	2.00	W Hayford Jr S H	2.00
Capt T Sawyer G	1.75	E Blake Esq S H	2.00
L Norcross D	2.00	J B Stratton W	1.00
W A Sampson W	1.13	J H Whitney M	2.00
F Wingate H	2.00	N Rollins E V	1.75
I Mitchell N D	2.00	J Collins Esq E V	2.25
J Lawrence S	2.00	P Wingate H	1.00
J Churchill E N P	1.00	Hon T Robinson E	2.25
L Snow N L	2.00	Capt E Snell W	2.00
N Hoyt E	2.00	J Jennings G	1.00
M Emerson E	2.00	E G Haynes P	2.00
H Bachelder P	2.00	J R Greenwood W	2.00
J Harriman O	1.75	J Cutter S	2.00
I Deering W C	1.28	Col J Basford D	2.00
N Doanes B	2.00	H Rust N	2.00
J Buck B	2.00	J White Jr R	2.00
B Stockin M	2.00		

Ken. Co. Ag. Society.

The members of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society are hereby notified that their annual meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 12th day of February inst. at ten o'clock in the forenoon, at the Masonic Hall in Winthrop village, to elect the Officers of the Society for the year ensuing, and to transact such other business as may be deemed expedient.

WM. NOYES, Rec. Sec'y.

Winthrop, Feb. 1, 1840.

A Good Family Horse

For sale by LEVI JOHNSON.
Vienna, Jan'y 1, 1840.

A Card.

The Subscriber would respectfully tender his thanks to his friends for their great kindness in removing his house for him on the 22d and 27th instant.

EBENEZER CARLETON.

Winthrop, January, 27, 1840.

To the Honorable H. W. Fuller, Judge of the Court of Probate within and for the County of Kennebec.

The Petition and Representation of Samuel White, Administrator of the estate of Benjamin Carr Jr. late of Readfield in the County of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, respectfully shews, that the personal Estate of said deceased, which has come into the hands and possession of the said Administrator is not sufficient to pay the just debts and demands against said Estate by the sum of five hundred dollars. That the said Administrator therefore makes application to this Court, and prays your Honor that he may be authorized and empowered, agreeably to law, to sell and pass deeds to convey so much of the real estate of said deceased as will be necessary to satisfy the demands now against said estate, including the reversion of the widow's dower if necessary, with incidental charges. All which is respectfully submitted. SAMUEL WHITE.

COUNTY OF KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate, held in Augusta on the last Tuesday of January, 1840.

On the Petition aforesaid, Ordered, That notice be given by publishing a copy of said petition, with this order thereon, three weeks successively, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Winthrop, that all persons interested may attend on the second Tuesday of March next, at the Court of Probate then to be holden in and shew cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. Such notice to be given before said Court.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

Attest: J. J. EVELETH, Register pro tem.

A true copy of the petition and order thereon.

Attest: J. J. EVELETH, Register, pro tem.

Iron Foundry,

Winthrop Street, HALLOWELL.

Mill-Cranks, Rims, Gudgeons, Spindles, and

CASTINGS of every description and Weight are now made at the above works, by experienced workmen.

On hand

Fire Frames, Cook Stoves, Cast Wagon Hubs, Plough, and Plough Castings, Cultivator Teeth, Sled and Sleigh shoes, Patent Oven and Ash mouths, Cast Wagon and Pipe Boxes, Potash Kettles, Caldrons, Fire-Dogs.

Turning in metals, and shafts and spindles can be executed at short notice.

Orders addressed to the subscriber, will receive immediate attention.

Two of Pollard & Wales' Horse Power and Thrashers, for sale very low

Notice.

THE public are hereby cautioned against purchasing a note of hand dated February 9, 1839, for \$22.23, given by me to Franklin Weeks or S. Crane of New Sharon. Said note was obtained unjustly and without consideration, and I shall not pay it. JOHN MASON.
New Sharon, Jan 20, 1840. 3w3

Swine, Pigs and Bees for sale.

THE subscriber has for sale at his farm in Winthrop, an assortment of swine and shoats. These swine comprise most of the improved breeds such as Bedford—Tuscarora—Berkshire, Mackay and Improved China. He has four pairs of pigs, now three weeks old, from a cross of Bedford and Berkshire. He will also have for sale in the course of the season, pigs from Mr Hains full blood Berkshire,—Mr Glidden's Tuscarora, and also other breeds.

Also one of Beard's Bee Louses, well stocked with bees and their honey. All of which will be sold on reasonable terms.

Winthrop, Jan. 1840.

Notice.

The subscriber having disposed of his stock in trade to B. H. CUSHMAN, Esq., and being desirous and rather necessitated to have all his concerns relating to his former business closed up with the least possible delay, requests all who have unadjusted accounts with him to call and settle the same on or before the 20th of January next, and all who are indebted to him, whether by note or account, and whose term of credit has expired to have the same liquidated without fail by that time.

SAML. CHANDLER.

Winthrop, Dec. 19, 1839.

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Notice.

THE subscriber hereby respectfully gives notice, that in consideration of his advanced age, he has decided to discontinue his professional business, and requests all with whom he has an open account to call and make settlement before the first of March next.

PELEG BENSON.

Winthrop, Dec. 25, 1839.

POETRY.

AFAR IN THE DESERT.

Afar in the Desert I love to ride,
With the silent Bush-boy alone by my side;
When the sorrows of life the soul o'ercrest,
And, sick of the Present, I cling to the Past;
When the eye is suffused with regretful tears,
From the fond recollections of former years;
And shadows of things that have long since fled
Flit over the brain, like ghosts of the dead:
Bright visions of glory—that vanished too soon;
Day-dreams—that departed ere manhood's noon;
Attachments—by fate or by falsehood reft;
Companions of early days—lost or left;
And my native land—whose magical name
Thrills to the heart like electric flame,
The home of my childhood; the haunts of my prime;
All the passions and scenes of that rapturous time
When the feelings were young and the world was new,

Like the fresh bowers of Eden unfolding to view;
All—all now forsaken—forgotten—forgone!
And I—a lone exile remembered by none—
My high aims abandoned,—my good acts undone,—
Aweary of all that is under the sun,—
With that sadness of heart which no stranger may scan,

I fly to the desert afar from man!
Afar in the Desert I love to ride,
With the silent Bush-boy alone by my side;
When the wild turmoil of this wearisome life,
With its scenes of oppression, corruption, and strife
The proud man's frown, and the base man's fear,—
The scorner's laugh, and the sufferer's tear,—
And malice, and meanness, and falsehood and folly,
Dispose me to musing and dark melancholy;
When my bosom is full, and my thoughts are high,—
And my soul is sick with the bondman's sigh—
Oh! then there is freedom, and joy, and pride,
Afar in the Desert alone to ride!

There is rapture to vault on the champing steed,
And to bound away with the eagle's speed,
With the death-fraught firelock in my hand—
The only law of the Desert Land!

Afar in the desert I love to ride,
With the silent Bush-boy alone by my side:
Away—away from the dwellings of men,
By the wild deer's haunt, by the buffalo's glen;
By valleys remote where the oribi plays,
Where thegnu, the gazelle, and the hartebeest graze,
And the kudu and eland unhunted recline
By the skirts of grey forest o'er hung with wild-vine;
Where the elephant browses at peace in his wood,
And the river-horse gambols unsuared in the flood,
And the mighty rhinoceros wallows at will
In the fen where the wild ass is drinking his fill.

Afar in the Desert I love to ride,
With the silent Bush-boy alone by my side;
O'er the brown Karroo, where the fleeting cry
Of the springbok's fawn sounds plaintively;
And the timorous quagga's shrill whistle neigh
Is heard by the fountain at twilight grey;
Where the zebra wantonly tosses his mane,
With wild hoof scouring the desolate plain;
And the fleet-footed ostrich over the waste
Speeds like a horseman who travels in haste,
Rising away to the home of her rest
Where she and her mate have scooped their nest,
Far hid from the pitiless plunderer's view
In the pathless depths of parched Karroo.

Afar in the Desert I love to ride,
With the silent Bush-boy alone by my side;
Away—away—in the wilderness vast,
Where the white man's foot hath never passed,
And the quivered Coranna or Bechuan
Hath rarely crossed with his roving clan:
A region of emptiness, howling and drear,
Which man hath abandoned from famine and fear;
Which the snake and the lizard inhabit alone,
With the twilight bat from the yawning stone;
Where grass, nor herb, nor shrub takes root,
Save poisonous thorns that pierce the foot;
And the bitter melon, for food and drink,
Is the pilgrim's fare by the salt lake's brink:
A region of drought where no river glides,
Nor rippling brook with osiered sides;
Where sedge pool, nor bubbling fount,
Nor tree, nor cloud, nor misty mount,
Appears, to refresh the aching eye:
But the barren earth, and the burning sky,
And the blank horizon, round and round,
Spread—void of living sight or sound.

And here, while night winds around me sigh,
And the stars burn bright in the mid-night sky,
As I sit apart by the desert stone,
Like Elijah at Horeb's cave alone,
A still small voice comes through the wild
(Like a father consoling his fretful child,) which banishes bitterness, wrath and fear,—
Saying,—MAN IS DISTANT, BUT GOD IS NEAR!

It is intimated that at least 25,000 Canadians have emigrated to the Western States the past year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Original.

NOVEL READING.

MR. HOLMES:—The subject of novel reading is one which may excite the attention of every person friendly to the proper education of youth. The importance of literature will not be questioned in an enlightened community. Indeed good literature is the foundation and support of that liberty of which we as a nation are so justly proud. All good literature certainly tends to the advantage of the christian religion and the advancement of the best interests of mankind.—This being granted let us just notice taste. By taste is meant that faculty of the mind which gives the student a relish for literature. In order to make progress in learning it is necessary that we have taste. How can a scholar make proficiency in the sciences if he has no relish for his studies? All men of penetration will admit the importance of cultivating a correct taste. A correct taste always stimulates us to pursue something that is of substantial utility. A skillful agriculturist, an able divine, a learned lawyer or a skillful physician are certainly if they are men of probity more useful members of society than a dancing master, a juggler, a card-player or a mountebank. If it were not for correctness of taste we should have but few men qualified to discharge the duties of the several professions in an able manner. Shall I speak in praise of virtue? this is unnecessary. Virtue is of more importance than even science itself. Without virtue there can be no foundation for happiness. That kind of knowledge which has not virtue for its object is not worth having; indeed it is worse than worthless. Learning it is said makes good men better and bad men worse. Knowledge should be the handmaid of virtue. Science and virtue should be twin sisters not to be separated. Those who acquire a taste for useful knowledge will at the same time acquire a relish for virtue. The inspired penman says, add to your faith virtue and to virtue knowledge &c. What has science done for our country when prompted by intrepid patriotism? We look with admiration to the heroes and sages of the revolution. What first strikes our enraptured eyes? Is it a novel writer with his pen? No! Who held the pen? Jefferson. Does he write novels calculated to corrupt youth? No! He holds up the laws of nature and of nature's God. He strikes and the sons of corruption tremble! What next do we see? Is it a writer of novels? No! It was John Adams defending the declaration of independence with eloquence which would have defied the thunders of Demosthenes: Or it was Patrick Henry who opened the floodgates of eloquence as often as the best good of his country required his efforts.—Did the prolific pen of Franklin descend so low as to write novels? No! His keen sagacity foresaw the pernicious effects of such kind of writings, and he forbore. Last not least was the immortal Washington himself who was neither a novel writer nor a reader of novels. He carefully studied the science of war and he triumphed over the gigantic power of Britain. He studied civil government and he triumphed over anarchy and human nature itself. I might speak of many others who have greatly benefitted our glorious country but it is unnecessary. What have novel writers done for the country? What are they doing for the country? It is a melancholy fact that novel reading is all the rage in many parts of the United States.

Now if those glorious patriots who achieved our independence and established a system of government unrivalled for the excellency of its character had been a collection of men whose tastes had been corrupted and whose virtue had been enervated by the reading of fictitious authors: instead of the now glorious republic of America we should have been a contemptible province depending upon the tender mercies of task masters. It is a substantial fact that whatever is calculated to enervate virtue or diminish a taste for useful science is calculated to endanger the liberties of a republic: it should therefore be the work of patriotism to discourage the reading of what are termed novels by the youth of our country. After the mind has once become thoroughly imbued with novel reading to solid literature farwell, to the useful sciences they are loathsome, they are irksome. It is vain to set that mind to the investigation of useful science which has been saturated with the reading of novels: it is like feeding a child with luxurious food till he cannot relish that which would afford him wholesome nourishment. I think it is a clear fact that novel reading corrupts taste and therefore obstructs the course of useful science, and if science is virtue's first friend, it is easy enough to see the evils which fictitious writers entail upon society. I am aware that some may entertain the idea that the reading of fictitious authors to a limited extent may be useful. Some may think that a little novel reading may be necessary in female education in this polite age. Mr. Locke a very sound writer says that "the taking method of giving the understanding improvement to the full extent of its capacity." Indeed there may be good result from the studying of fictitious authors but if the evils overbal-

ance the good tenfold, it is the part of wisdom to forbear. Shall the doctrine obtain that the free use of ardent spirits is calculated to promote the best interests of mankind because that in extreme cases they may be useful when used medically. The voice of wisdom would say to the youth who is contracting habits of intemperance, beware! or you will ruin yourself. A young scholar may perhaps read a few novels without much injury, but the voice of wisdom would say beware! my young friend! you may corrupt your taste and never be either a distinguished or a useful man.

Rumford, Jan. 1840.

Improved Swine and Sheep.

THE subscriber hereby informs the public that he intends to keep his full blooded BERKSHIRE BOAR, for the use of Sows the ensuing winter, at his Farm in Hallowell. This animal was obtained last spring from Lexington, Mass., from stock lately imported by Elias Phinney. There is a breed of Swine extant in our State, which have been erroneously called "Berkshire," which are very unlike and inferior to the true blood. This breed is now universally acknowledged where it is known in this country, to be superior to all others; they combine the qualities of large, size, with a quiet disposition, early maturity and easy to fatten;—they are long bodied, short legged, broad and straight in their back and remarkably full in their quarters. To this Boar was awarded the first premium at the Kennebec Agricultural Fair, recently held at Winthrop.

Terms, Two Dollars, cash, for the season. Sows brought from a distance, and which it may be found necessary to leave for a time, will be well tended, for which will be charged 50 cents per week extra.

My old Bedford Boar, which is between four and five years old, will be kept the ensuing winter at Daniel Craig's, of Readfield; he is a fine animal and has been remarkably honored in his descendants—he received the Kennebec Agricultural Society's first premium in A. D. 1835, and his progeny have received premiums every year since, of the same Society, and several times they have received premiums from the Penobscot and Somerset Ag. Societies. I have received orders for his pigs, during the past summer, from four different States of the Union, and also from the Dist. of Columbia, which I have answered by forwarding them. Terms, one dollar for the season, cash. I have for sale 2 pairs of Bedford Pigs, six weeks old, from the Sow that was exhibited at Winthrop, and took the first premium at the late Cattle Show and Fair, and one pair of Bedford and Mackey pigs. Also for sale or to let, one Buck, half South Down, one fourth Dishley, and one fourth Merino. J. W. HAINES.

Hallowell, 11th Mo. 12th. 1839.

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Orders for Premiums.

OF the Ken. Co. Ag. Society, are left with the Secretary, Wm. Noyes, at the office of Mr. Farmer.

Improved Swine.

THE subscriber would respectfully inform the public that he intends keeping his full blooded Berkshire Boar for the use of Sows the ensuing winter at his farm in Wales. This animal was selected by me in Liverpool, England, in June 1838, and brought to this country under my personal care. The stock of this Boar is universally approved of where it is known. Those who are desirous of improving their breed of Swine will do well to call and see for themselves.

TERMS—Two dollars cash for the season. Sows that are brought from a distance which may be found necessary to leave for a time will be well tended, for which 50 cents per week extra will be charged.

JOHN LOMBARD.

Wales, Dec. 15, 1839.

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The Maine Farmer,
And Journal of the Useful Arts,

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WINTHROP

By NOYES & ROBBINS;

E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price \$2.00 a year. \$2.50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of 25 cents will be made to those who pay CASH in advance—and a proportionable deduction to those who pay before the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

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A few short advertisements will be inserted at the following rates. All less than a square \$1.00 for three insertions. \$1.25 per square, for three insertions. Continued three weeks at one half these rates.

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